

THE WAR FOR THE UNION.

FALSE ALARMS IN WASHINGTON.

FEINTS BY THE ENEMY.

THE CONDITION OF OUR ADVANCED LINES.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Friday, June 21, 1861.

FALSE ALARMS AT WASHINGTON.

There continues to be a general disposition among soldiers and civilians, on both sides of the river, to believe that our lines are in imminent danger of attack. It is said that many Washingtonians up till dawn last night, listening for the first roar of Beauregard's cannon. And to-day stories to the effect that 38 out of 42 of the pickets of one of our regiments had been cut off, that 300 Rebels had been killed near Fairfax Court-House, and that an attempt had been made to burn Long Bridge in boats, with ten incendiaries taken and two shot, found eager believers. The truth is, that the last 24 hours have been as quiet as possible, when the outposts of hostile forces are within two or three miles of each other.

NO REAL DANGER OF AN ASSAULT.

Beauregard is said to be strengthening his advance at Fairfax, and Gen. McDowell is actively at work providing against possible movements of the enemy, but neither side seems prepared to take the initiative. Why, if the Rebel leaders intend to assail our intrenchments, they await the approach of Gen. Patterson's and McClellan's columns, to say nothing of the regiments daily pouring into Washington, is hard to discover. The most plausible supposition is that suggested last night, that the leaders deem an assault bad policy, but are obliged to feign some movement of the kind in order to humor their soldiers.

A GENERAL RECONNOISSANCE.

One of your correspondents has just returned from a general reconnoissance. He visited all the camps, and the most advanced pickets, and found quiet everywhere. The only sign of the enemy which he could discover with a glass, was a palmetto flag, indicating the presence of South Carolina troops, which was flying three miles from the Connecticut encampment, and about the same distance from Fairfax Court-House, near the road thence to Alexandria. Lieut. Tompkins was still at Falls Church, and the other regiments remained where they have been posted since the Vienna affair. There is no apprehension whatever among the troops on the other side of the Potomac of a Rebel attack. The preparations there are only for the sake of thorough precaution, so that, in case the general conviction should chance to prove erroneous, everything may be secure.

If an attack should be made, the plan of the advanced force is all prearranged, although its details cannot, of course, be divulged. There is a general outcry of disgust at Emory's promotion among the officers of the advance army in Virginia. There are no stores of provisions with the Ohio and Connecticut camps in Virginia. They are supplied from Washington each day. There is complaint in the advanced camps on account of the freedom with which passes are issued from Washington for the benefit of Secession sympathizers. Two of these were canceled to-day at the Connecticut camp. They were sold by market women whose husbands are in the Rebel force close at hand, and who were believed to furnish daily information to the enemy.

MASKED BATTERIES.

It is probable that all the roads between the advance posts of the enemy, and from them toward our lines, are covered by masked batteries. In addition to those discovered by Lieut. Tompkins, to which allusion was made last night, it has been ascertained that there is one, and probably more, in the woods near Springfield, the first station from Alexandria on the Orange and Alexandria road, nine miles from Alexandria and eighteen from Manassas Junction. A force of several hundred troops there. It is believed that they have been erected within a week.

THE WARNING TO GEN. SCHENCK.

The statement that Gen. Schenck was warned, while on his way to Vienna, of the presence of the Rebel force there has been received with some doubt. You may be assured that it is the fact, and that the advance was not made in ignorance. Gen. Schenck preferred to "go on and see."

THE CAPTURE OF THE CONNECTICUT PICKETS.
The two captured Connecticut picket-men were victims of a rebel confidence game. They sought their dinner the other day at a house near their outpost, and made so favorable an impression upon their hosts that they were invited also to tea, for the sake of freer enjoyment, but left their arms in a side room. Before the meal was over, they were waited upon by three Virginians, who suddenly grew so fond that they refused to be parted altogether, and since that time the Connecticut men have not been seen.

MOVEMENTS OF WAR MUNITIONS.
Eight car loads of muskets have been sent from the Arsenal here to Harrisburg, and seven car loads of 24-pounder cannon balls have been brought to the Arsenal.

MOVEMENTS OF N. Y. REGIMENTS.
The 18th and 38th N. Y. Regiments arrived last night. The N. Y. 38th will go into camp to-morrow morning, on Georgetown Heights. We understand their old altered flintlocks will be immediately exchanged for Minié muskets.

THE MAINE REGIMENTS.
The 4th Maine is in camp with the other Maine Regiments, near Meridian Hill.

THE GARIBOLDI GUARD.

The report which was published in some of the French papers, to the effect that the Garibaldi Guard is ill-substituted, is totally untrue. We have the assurances of the field officers that they are in the best condition, and the letter from the Captain of the French Company, on which the reports are based, and which was written to private friends, has given occasion to much unfair criticism. The Captain will, to-morrow, publish a card refuting the charge of negligence on the part of the Government, or of the many friends of the regiment.

THE MISSION TO VENEZUELA.

Henry T. Blow of Missouri, newly appointed Minister to Venezuela, has been granted leave of absence from his post for a few weeks. His services will, for the present, be more useful at home than abroad.

STOCK OPERATIONS.

It is said that stocks have advanced in Philadelphia on the faith of a speedy peace. We advise

everybody who holds at the advanced figures to sell.

DR. ELDER AND THE TARIFF DEPARTMENT.

Secretary Chase has tendered Dr. Elder of Philadelphia a post in the Tariff section of the Department.

THE GUN-BOT BIDS.

One of the lowest bidders for the gun-boats was Mr. Westervelt of New-York, who bid at \$92,000 for seventy-five days. Others at the same rate were received from Baltimore.

All bids for gun-boats from builders east of New-York have been rejected. Eastern men will, however, have an opportunity to deprive Philadelphia, New-York, and Baltimore of the honor of constructing all, if they come down below \$60,000.

We understand that the Secretary of the Navy has decided not to accept any of the bids for the building of the new gun-boats. An average of prices will be adjusted and offers made for construction at specific sums. A circular has been prepared, a copy to be sent to each of the 200 bidders, proposing to give \$56,000 for a gun-boat constructed in 70 days; \$51,000, if in 90 days; and \$50,000, if in 105 days; the entire number of the boats being 25, of the class designated. If the acceptors exceed this number then they are to draw lots, or otherwise decide as to whom the contracts shall be awarded.

REMOVAL.

Mrs. Douglas is in the city on a short visit. She will make Chicago her residence.

ENGLAND AND THE REBELLION.

The last advices from England are expressive of a subdued tone of the Ministry in their policy toward this country. They are evidently satisfied of their mistake in assuming the success of the Southern rebellion, with the compliance of the North. But Mr. Bull is always most in the right when he is most in the wrong, and never confesses to a blunder. All accounts concur in representing the feeling of the people to be almost universal in favor of the Government. If we will recall Secession Consuls, and bring home traitorous Ministers resident, we shall not be split upon by Prime Ministers, nor have our diplomatic representatives kicked by Secretaries of Foreign Affairs.

THE CAPTURED PIRATES.

A question is likely to be raised, of no little importance, in the case of the pirates who managed the Savannah. Where and how shall they be tried? Our law of piracy provides that the pirate shall be taken before a Circuit Court of the United States in the district where he shall be brought or found. This must mean the district within which he shall be brought first, after his capture. Now, the crew of the Savannah were taken in the Minnesota to Hampton Roads, and there transferred to the Harriet Lane. Is this to be considered as bringing them within the district, and, if so, can a Circuit Court be created there by the President, there being none there at present? Gen. Butler, whose experience as a criminal lawyer has familiarized him with the statutes on this head, and who finds time to discuss such questions, has in his dispatches taken this point, and suggested that a Court be instituted at Fort Monroe to meet this and similar exigencies.

LOUISVILLE AND THE UNION.

A recent letter from Louisville says that there is no business there of any kind. The city is unconditionally for the Union. Even Secessionists dare not talk what they mean, but clothe their treasonable designs with the form of armed neutrality. A Union club in Louisville of ten days' growth numbers between 3,000 and 4,000 of the best men in the city.

NARROW ESCAPE OF MRS. LINCOLN AND FRIENDS.

Mrs. President Lincoln, Mrs. Grimsey, and Gen. Walbridge made an inspection of the various camps on the Virginia side this afternoon. After visiting the New-Jersey Regiments, on their way to Arlington Heights, and the 60th, just after leaving the 25th, they had a narrow escape. The carriage pole broke, the horses became unmanageable and the party was only rescued from imminent danger by the soldiers of the 25th.

FIELD TELEGRAPH.

A field telegraph, under the superintendence of Engineer Rogers of New-York, who is the inventor, is in operation between Gen. McDowell's headquarters and the advance camps, and works to the war depot. The cordage differs from, and is thought to have advantages over, any hitherto used. It runs from reels as fast as required.

DISPATCHES FOR GEN. BUTLER.

The Mount Vernon sailed for Hampton Roads to-night with dispatches and munitions of war.

NEW-YORK REGIMENTS.

The New-York 8th Regiment German Rifles were sworn in this evening. Eight recruits refused to take the oath. Their uniforms were stripped from them, and they were drummed out of camp. The 18th and 14th New-York are in camp on Fourteenth street, beyond the New-York 9th's camp.

DAMAGES TO PRIVATE PROPERTY.

The following excellent order has been issued: HEAD-QUARTERS OF THE NEW-JERSEY BRIGADE, CAMP FAIRFAX, June 16, 1861. A Board to make estimates and report to these headquarters the amount of damage done in any way to private property by reason of the occupation of this section of the country by the New-Jersey Brigade, or any of its regiments, or the entry into the State of Virginia is hereby constituted. The following officers will constitute the Board: Major James S. Ward, Third Regt. N. J. Infantry; Captain Robert L. Smith, Second Regt. N. J. Infantry; Captain Robert L. Smith, Second Regt. N. J. Infantry; Lieutenant Franklin S. Miles, Third Regt. N. J. Infantry.

The Board will organize without delay, and proceed at once to the discharge of the duties imposed upon them, and will, with all practicable dispatch, make their report to these Headquarters. The meeting of this Board will be held at these Headquarters on Monday, June 17, 1861, at 10 o'clock a. m. By order of Brig. Gen. Runyon.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

Henry Lee Scott has been appointed Inspector-General, and W. T. Sherman is detailed as Assistant in the same bureau.

AFFAIRS AT ALEXANDRIA.

Affairs remain in the same condition at Alexandria as yesterday. The troops are kept on the alert, though no immediate cause of apprehension is discernable. The Ohio camp, however, is supposed to be directly menaced by the enemy, whose pickets and darts are visible from Gen. Schenck's Headquarters at a distance of about two miles.

TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

WASHINGTON, Friday, June 21, 1861. All was quiet on the Virginia side of the Potomac during last night, with the exception only that the stillness of the country was occasionally disturbed by the signal firing of the picket guards.

At the army headquarters in Washington this morning all is calm, affording a striking contrast to the active business operations of yesterday. Throughout last night and this morning the many Government teamsters have been engaged in hauling the necessary supplies for the troops, and the baggage of the constantly arriving military.

The thermometer stands now (noon) at 102° in the shade.

The followers of the Secessionists in Missouri, and

their continued attacks upon the troops of the Government, have impelled the Administration to adopt the most vigorous measures for their suppression, and I understand that the post of Brigadier-General, in consequence of the threatened condition of affairs in that State, has been conferred upon Senator James H. Lane, and that the celebrated Captain Montgomery has been appointed a Colonel; and that you will perceive that Governor Jackson, James S. Green, and their associates, will be well opposed by the leaders of the ultra party in Kansas.

It has leaked out among Virginia Secessionists that the removal of the Confederate Congress to Richmond was merely a dodge to win over the wavering in the State to the support of Jeff. Davis's Secession movement. There was no intention to make Richmond the place of permanent occupancy, the object being to secede at their convenience whenever it was in the interest of leaders to do so. The portable Government of Jefferson D. & Co. is not difficult to transport, and Virginians need not be surprised at any time to learn that it had gone off in the last train.

Henry B. Tyler, Lieutenant of the Marine Corps, recently arrested in New-York, was to-day dismissed from the service.

The following general order has been issued from the Adjutant-General's office:

"The Captains and 1st Lieutenants belonging to old regiments of the Army, whose appointments to the same grades in the new regiments raised, in conformity with the President's Proclamation of May 3, 1861, is announced in General Order No. 33 of June 15, are to be considered as having been transferred, and will accordingly be mustered in their new regiments, and will be borne upon the Army Register with the same date of rank, ordinary, being their own."

The 18th New-York Regiment went into camp to-night, probably at Arlington. Five regiments, on this side of the Potomac, are under orders to march at a moment's notice, thus indicating a preparation for sudden emergencies.

The 1st Massachusetts Regiment of Boston are camped midway between Georgetown and the Chain Bridge, and their pickets extend from the former point to the latter, a distance of three miles.

1st Lieut. David Lewis, of the Metropolitan Rifles, of the District of Columbia Volunteers, was accidentally and fatally shot this morning, at the Chain Bridge, by one of his comrades.

The President has appointed the following United States Consuls:

Ed. Trowbridge, of Connecticut, at Bermuda; William Porter, of Louisiana, at Trinidad; Wm. H. East of Kentucky, at Stuttgart; Wm. Bush of Tennessee, at Tanganyika; William H. Russell of Missouri, at Irtida de Cuba; John E. Newcomb of Pennsylvania, at Tientsin; J. H. Johnston of California, at Valparaiso; Charles J. Smith of Illinois, at Oporto; Robert M. Walsh of Pennsylvania, at Lophos; Arthur B. Bradford of Kentucky, at Antwerp; J. A. W. Crawford of Pennsylvania, at Antwerp; John C. Underwood of Virginia, at Callao; Geo. T. Fox of Ohio, at Trinidad; James E. Green of Wisconsin, at Irtida de Cuba; E. L. East of Ohio, at Matanzas; A. W. Wells of New York, at Bahia; Seth Webb, Jr. of Massachusetts, Commercial Agent at Port-au-Prince.

AFFAIRS AT ALEXANDRIA.

ALEXANDRIA, Thursday, June 21, 1861.

The Fairfax, Orange, and Manassas roads, are now looked to with more interest by your correspondent, as Secession pickets are reported to have approached at times as near as Georges, about 8 miles out. The danger of being removed to Richmond ahead of the army prevents a personal visit to inquire into the truth of this rumor.

THE WHEELING CONVENTION.

WHEELING, Va., Thursday, June 20, 1861.

The morning session was occupied by signing the declaration. It was an impressive scene. The roll was called by counties and each member came forward to the Secretary's desk and signed the parchment.

In the afternoon, Frank H. Pierpont of Marion County was unanimously elected Governor; Daniel Paisley of Mason County Lieutenant-Governor; and Messrs. Lamb, Paschaw, Van Winkle, Harrison, and Lazar to form the Governor's Council. The election of an Attorney-General was postponed till Saturday.

The Governor was formally inaugurated this afternoon, taking in addition to the usual oath, one of stringent opposition to the usurpers at Richmond. He then delivered an address to the members of the Convention, urging a vigorous prosecution of the work of redeeming the State from the hands of the Rebels.

The message from Gov. Pierpont, favoring a strong militia organization, is expected in a day or two.

To-night the city is in a blaze of excitement. The bells are ringing, cannon firing, and fireworks being displayed. Everybody is rejoicing.

There are no reliable details as yet concerning the burning of the bridge near Piedmont. It is not thought here that the Rebels have gathered in any numbers.

Major-General McClellan to-day assumes command in person of the Western Virginia forces. He expects to have 15,000 men in the field before Saturday night. (The above appeared in only a portion of Friday's edition.)

WHEELING, Friday, June 21, 1861.

The Convention to-day adopted an ordinance relating to the disbursement of the public revenue, and providing for the appointment of an Auditor, Treasurer and Secretary of the Commonwealth. Also an ordinance fixing the salaries of certain officers.

A resolution was offered and referred, recommending to the Federal authorities the construction of a military road from Wever, on the North-Western Virginia Railroad, southward to a suitable point in South-Western Virginia.

A resolution was adopted that a copy of the Declaration of Independence and signatures be forwarded to the President of the United States.

The Convention adjourned over till Monday to afford the Committee of Seventeen time to perfect an ordinance for the organization of the State militia.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Friday, June 21, 1861.

The Picayune of the 16th inst. says that there are parties now in New-Orleans who will undertake the capture of the steamer Brooklyn for \$100,000.

The Mobile Advertiser of the 16th inst. says that three plans have been suggested to the Council of Defense to sink or drive off the Niagara from Mobile Point. It adds: "The Niagara will be obliged to get out of the way of an iron battery that will soon be after her."

Governor Harris of Tennessee, in a message, recommends the passage of a law requiring payment to be made of all sums due from the State to all persons or Governments on terms of peace, and advises such a policy toward the citizens of the belligerent States as the rules of war justify, and recommends the issue of Treasury Notes to pay the expenses of the Provisional Government, to be receivable as currency.

THE FUNERAL OF MAJOR WINTHROP.

NEW-HAVEN, Ct., Friday, June 21, 1861.

The funeral of Major Winthrop this afternoon was attended by a procession of over 1,000 persons, including the Veteran Grays, Governor's Foot Guard, Emmet Guard, Russell's School Battalion, National Blues, Officers of the Horse Guard, City Government, Yale Students, &c. The hearse was draped in an American flag. During the passage of the procession up Chapel street the bells were tolled and cannon fired. The flags throughout the city were at half mast, and many of the stores on Chapel street were draped in mourning.

THE TROOPS AT ELMIRA.

ELMIRA, Friday, June 21, 1861.

The 26th Regiment, Col. Christian, left at 10 o'clock for Washington. Five regiments are now here, and will be mustered in the United States service for two years immediately. Uniforms for two regiments arrived to-day and were distributed. They are fine looking, and superior to those furnished the other regiments which have left here.

TROOPS EN ROUTE.

CLEVELAND, Friday, June 21, 1861.

The 2d Wisconsin Regiment passed through here this afternoon for Washington. It was welcomed by an enthusiastic crowd of citizens and before leaving partook of refreshments, which had been abundantly provided in the park.

IMPORTANT FROM MISSOURI.

REAPPEARANCE OF GOVERNOR JACKSON.

He Suddenly Disappears Again.

ANOTHER BATTLE.

DEFEAT OF THE HOME GUARDS.

THEY MAKE A GALLANT DEFENSE.

SEVERE LOSS OF THE STATE TROOPS.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Friday, June 21, 1861.

The Democrat learns from Syracuse, about 25 miles south of Booneville, that an expedition, nearly 1,000 strong, with four pieces of artillery, under Capt. Tupper of the regular service, left Booneville on Wednesday night, and reached this place at 10 a. m. yesterday.

Gov. Jackson with 500 men arrived here on Tuesday, and after impressing the property of both enemies and friends, being afraid of pursuit, suddenly left yesterday morning, proceeding southward toward Warsaw. Our forces have gone forward to-day, but there is little hope of overtaking the fleeing party.

A battle took place at sunrise Tuesday morning between 800 Union Home Guards, under Capt. Cook, near the town of Coll, where they camp, and a large party of Secessionists, from Warsaw and the surrounding country, in which 15 Guards were killed and 20 wounded, many of them severely injured, and 30 prisoners taken. Most of the Guards were in a large barn when the firing began, but they immediately sprang to arms. It is said that they killed 40 of the attacking party before being overpowered by superior numbers. Nearly all of them finally escaped, and are all ready to join our forces, to dispute the passage of the State troops.

Capt. Cook reached here this morning in disguise. He says not one-half his force was armed, and only two hundred participated in the fight. He hastened forward to overtake and connect with Capt. Totten.

Some of Gov. Jackson's party went west from here on Wednesday night by railroad, taking what rolling stock they could, and destroying the rest, and burned Laramie Bridge, a costly structure, six miles west of here.

Syracuse is now protected by Federal troops. Among several letters captured in Booneville, by Gen. Lyon embracing orders from headquarters to destroy the bridges on the North Missouri, Hannibal and St. Joseph, and the Pacific Railroad, and instructions to different officers and individuals respecting the organization of troops, &c., one enumerating the arms and ammunition seized at Liberty Arsenal some time since, the last as follows:

8 brass and 12 iron six-pounders, 160 balls, 380 pounds canister, 53 strap shot, 380 fixed rounds, 180 muskets, 234 rifles, 121 carbines, 81 pistols, 469 sabres, 39 artillery swords, 4,000 pounds cannon powder, 9,900 pounds musket powder, 4,800 pounds rifle powder, 150,000 musket cartridges, 9,000 musketoon do., 17,500 rifle do., 55,000 pistol do., 10,000 blank do.

Up the River—Gen. Lyon and Col. Blair following Gov. Jackson to Booneville—War Rumors—Proclamation from Col. Beaman.

From the Special Correspondent.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Monday, June 17, 1861.

Our stay at Hermann lasted only three or four hours. The resources offered to strangers by that exclusively German town are not extensive. We (another nomadic journalist and I) again climbed the limestone bluff, which is a hundred feet perpendicular above the railroad, and lying down upon the flat, hot rocks, surveyed the indescribably muddy river, the plain dwellings, with apples, peaches, and quinces maturing in the orchards around them; the little brick church, with a long, black wooden cross imbedded in the front wall; the terraced Catawba vineyards on the abrupt hills which environ the town, and the men, women, and children, in their light Sunday clothing, chatting in groups along the sidewalk fronting the river, or discussing their wine and lager beer at little round tables in the open saloons.

The last views were not of the class to which distance lends enchantment, so we "marched down again." More native wine is produced in the vicinity of Hermann than at any other point west of the vineyards around Cincinnati. Some consider this Missouri wine the best made in the Union; but a quart which we secured under the seductive influence of this recommendation: "Best Catawba wine for sixty cents a bottle," did not convert us to that opinion. It had a dull, spiritless taste, quite inferior to the rich, fruity flavor of the best Ohio Catawba. A few darts were sufficient to strengthen us in the faith that

"Sweetest and best,
Is the wine of the west,
On the bank of the beautiful river."

At 4 in the evening, the steamer War Eagle came along, bound up the river. We went on board, as did also the commander of the Hermann Home Guard, with two telegraphic dispatches of two lines each, concerning the transportation of troops, which he handed the master of the boat to read. After scrutinizing them intently for five minutes, during which at least a dozen passengers had read them over the captain's brain, port seemed to dawn dimly upon the captain's brain, and he averred that it was all right. Thereupon, 49 sappers and miners of the regular army came on board, en route for Jefferson, led by a captain whose eyes and hand convey strong reminiscences of old John Brown. These sappers and miners are nearly all Germans; physically they are fine fellows, with sinewy limbs and full, deep chests; and they are said to be extremely efficient. Their captain, a Swede, who was employed in the same department in the Crimean war, claims that they can construct, in twenty-four hours, a bridge five hundred feet in length, sufficient for the crossing of infantry. Their uniform is a Kossuth hat, the rim on the left side turned up, with a button and drooping feather, gray woolen frock, with bright red collar and facings, and dark mixed pants, with a stripe of red. From their broad belt around the waist, depend a long saber and a cartridge-box, and they are armed with Sharps' rifle carbine. With their blankets looped over the left shoulder and under the right arm, their caucuses of water, slung behind them, and their white cotton socks at their sides, stamped "U. S.," and sufficient to hold eight or ten days' rations, they are well equipped for hard service.

The War Eagle soon started upon the great, muddy river, which, in the deepening twilight, lost some of its repulsiveness. Along one shore its troubled face had turned to dark, glossy green; near the other it had put on a rich, shining, golden hue; while between them, far up the stream, trembled a long, narrow, purplish ripple. The sappers and miners upon the deck were drinking their coffee from tin cups, dipping it from a huge kettle, and making a frugal supper of slices of light bread moistened in it. At breakfast this morning lamb was added to their repast. The oars along the

shores of the river is unusually backward; the wheel generally is out.

Our boat arrived here early this morning; but we are the day after the fair. Messrs. Lyon and Blair, with their command, left upon three steamers, last night, for Booneville, fifty miles above, where Claib. Jackson and the other rebellious State officials were at latest accounts, collecting the militia and preparing to show fight. The telegraph and the roads above here are in the hands of the Rebels; and our only prospect of reaching the scene of action is to await a steamer, with more Government troops, which is expected here this evening.

Order reigns in Jefferson City. There are no troops here, except about five hundred from one of the St. Louis German regiments, who are quartered in the Capitol, and commanded by Col. Boerstlein. The chairs and desks have been removed from the legislative halls, and in lieu of the traitors who attempted, last Winter, to precipitate Missouri out of the Union, and then adjourned sine die at midnight, in a wild panic caused by a report that Federal troops were coming to arrest them, they are now occupied by the loyal German Republicans of Missouri, who have turned out promptly to fight treason and traitors. I thought, while visiting the Representatives' Hall, that the life-size portrait of Col. Benton, taken while he was in his prime, and was one of the finest-looking men of his day, seemed to look down on them with unusual complacency.

The air is full of war rumors of all descriptions—reports of fighting at Independence, Kansas City, and Booneville, and at various other points, but nothing well authenticated. Union men are coming into Jefferson from various parts of the State to obtain arms, and obtain permission to form themselves into Home Guards. Col. Boerstlein has just issued a proclamation to the people, assuring them of protection in their persons and property.

IMPORTANT FROM WILLIAMSPORT AND HARPER'S FERRY.

BALTIMORE, Friday, June 21, 1861.

The American's correspondent at Williamsport says trustworthy information has been received that a Confederate force of 11,000 from Harper's Ferry, with four impressed men, are encamped at Stephenson's Depot, four miles this side of Winchester, and ten miles from Martinsburg.

In Berkeley County, 700 men compose the entire Confederate force, about 450 of whom are encamped four miles north of Martinsburg. Seventy cavalry and 60 infantry are at Bunker's Hill, and others between that point and the Potomac.

Gen. Cadwalader is still at Williamsport, with 6,000 men. The Rebel pickets are at the river opposite, and threaten to bombard the town. Two 34-pounders and an 8-inch howitzer were planted by Gen. Cadwalader on the hill between the town and river last night. The people are frightened. Many have left, and others are preparing to fight. A body of United States cavalry joined Gen. Cadwalader yesterday. The movements of the troops are unknown, but they are anxious for a fight.

A note from the correspondent of the Associated Press at Hagerstown, says neither Col. Bowman nor the private of the 8th Pennsylvania Volunteers, taken prisoners opposite Williamsport, Wednesday, have since been heard from. The soldiers are greatly excited in consequence, and threatened to arrest Dr. Magill of Hagerstown and hold him as hostage, but gave up their purpose.

Important movements are expected by Gen. Patterson's column in a day or two.

A dispatch from Harper's Ferry to The Washington States confirms the report that 300 Confederate troops arrived at the Ferry yesterday and completed the work of destruction, burnt the rifle factory and the Shenandoah bridge, and ran a large first-class locomotive, that was left on the track, off the abutment of the bridge into the river. They said they were instructed to blow up every house in town on which a Union flag should be found. Fortunately there was none.

They commenced to arrest all the Union men near, and succeeded in securing 11, whom they took off. The balance, 50 in number, they pursued to the river, into which they jumped, and swam across to the Maryland shore. They fired at them in the water, but all escaped without a wound, though two of them had better luck pass through their hands. The Government should send protection to these unfortunate people as soon as practicable.

They took all the gun-stocks, to the number of about 50,000, that were in the rifle factory.

The Star has also a dispatch from Bedford, Penn., announcing the arrival of a messenger from Cumberland from Col. Wallace, who reports that Col. Wallace had started his baggage toward Bedford, and intrenched himself on the north side of the town, to await the approach of the Secession army from Romney.

The latter, on ascertaining that he was prepared to meet them, retired again to Romney.

He has sent to Gen. Patterson for aid to drive them from Romney, and received a reply that two regiments would immediately be sent to Bedford to join him.

ADVANCE OF THE REBELS.

FORTRESS MONROE, June 20.

Via BALTIMORE, June 21, 1861.

The Union pickets of the outposts